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LETTER DATED 29 SEPTEMBER 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to present to you the attached letter, dated 28 September 1992, from the Acting President of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mr. Ejup Ganic.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Letter dated 28 September 1992 from the Acting President of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the President of the Security Council

Massive air attacks continued in Bosnia and Herzegovina today. Over 50 sorties have been registered at the airport in Banja Luka alone. The towns of Maglaj, Bosanski Brod, Teslic, Jajce and Brcko have been bombed, mostly with cluster bombs. In Brcko alone 15 people were killed and 50 badly wounded. An elementary school, now used as a bomb shelter, has been completely destroyed by aircraft-launched rockets. About 15 helicopters have been used to transport reinforcements from Serbia (Batajnica airport near Belgrade) into the town of Rogatica in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In Sarajevo, shelling continued. Today, a funeral procession was shelled. Three people were killed and 20 badly wounded. Yesterday, the aggressor completely shut down the water supply to Sarajevo. The whole city is without water. Electricity was disconnected a day after the Honorable Cyrus R. Vance and Lord David Owen visited Sarajevo and had reached an agreement with the aggressor not to use water and electricity as a weapon of war.

We must protest vigorously that, while our delegation has been participating at the Geneva session of the London Conference, the aggressor has been using the talks as a cover for new aggression against Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Because of the arms embargo, we cannot defend ourselves, and yet no one is coming to our aid even though we have been assured aid was coming from the Security Council resolutions and the London Conference accords.

The "no-fly zone" confidence-building measure was one of the principal accords at the London Conference. It has yet to be implemented. Worse yet, we have now learned that the definition of the "no-fly zone" is being discussed contrary to the definition we agreed to in London.

If the international community is unwilling or unable to fulfil its pledges and promises, as with the "no-fly zone", then the only alternative for us is to exercise fully our right of self-defence, pursuant to Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

The international community cannot have it both ways. Enforcing the arms embargo means you must defend us. Failing to implement and enforce the Security Council resolutions and the London Conference accords means you must lift the arms embargo.

The Security Council must choose one of the two options. Failure to do so implicitly supports the aggression against Bosnia and Herzegovina.

(Signed) Ejup GANIC
Acting President
of the Presidency